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*Amendment*  
*Attorney Docket No. S63.2N-11056-US03*

**Amendments To The Claims:**

Claims 1-64. (Canceled)

Claim 65. (Previously presented) A stent having a longitudinal axis and a first end and a second end and a flow path therethrough, the stent comprising an open-ended elongate tube having a generally circumferential wall, there being a multiplicity of interconnected curvilinear struts formed in the wall of said tube, the struts disposed about a multiplicity of through-holes in said wall such that the through holes are surrounded by struts, each of said struts having, in a cross-section perpendicular to the flowpath, thicker portions with a narrower portion therebetween and a greater width than thickness.

Claim 66-67. (Canceled)

Claim 68. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 65, wherein said struts are serpentine.

Claim 69-75. (Canceled)

Claim 76. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 65 wherein the struts are arranged in a plurality of serpentine bands, each of the serpentine bands being a continuous, closed structure which extends about the circumference of the stent.

Claim 77. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 76 wherein at least some of the serpentine bands extending about the circumference of the stent abut one another.

Claim 78. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 77 wherein some adjacent serpentine bands are connected to one another via a connector which extends between the adjacent serpentine bands.

Claim 79. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 76 having a taper.

Claim 80. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 65 having a taper.

Claim 81. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 79 wherein the inner diameter of the

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stent is constant over the length of the stent and the outer diameter has a taper.

Claim 82. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 80 wherein the inner diameter of the stent is constant over the length of the stent and the outer diameter has a taper.

Claims 83-84. (Canceled)

Claim 85. (Previously presented) A stent having a longitudinal axis and formed from an open-ended tube having a first end and a second end and a midpoint therebetween, the tube having a wall between an inner surface and an outer surface, the wall having a thickness and with a multiplicity of holes formed therethrough between the first and second ends via the removal of material from the wall, the tubular wall defined by a plurality of struts, the thickness of the wall tapering from the midpoint to each end of the stent at a substantially constant slope in relation to the longitudinal axis.

Claims 86-87. (Canceled)

Claim 88 (Previously presented) A stent having a longitudinal axis and a first end and a second end, an outer surface and an inner surface, the inner surface defining a flow path therethrough, the stent comprising an open-ended elongate tube having a generally circumferential wall, there being a multiplicity of interconnected curvilinear struts formed in the wall of said tube, the struts connected such that closed pathways are formed about a multiplicity of through-holes in said wall, each of said struts having a thickness, the thickness being the distance between the outer surface and the inner surface, in a cross-section perpendicular to the flowpath the thickness of the struts are characterized by being smaller than the width of the struts and by having thicker portions with a narrower portion therebetween.